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# THE DIXIE RANGER

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE-SOUTHERN REGION

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## RANGER PAPER WORK

While all of us in the Regional Office agree that the average Ranger has too much paper work, yet we find that there are still forests where the Rangers are by no means overloaded with paper duties. Perhaps much of the trouble is due to our having forgotten that "The District Ranger is primarily a field man rather than an office worker".

Those Rangers who have or who have had clerks are doing more paper work by reason of their having facilities for such work than if they had no such invitations to indulge in those activities. It is quite generally accepted that the more subordinates a man has the more time he must spend as a supervisor rather than a doer, and this holds true of all activities. The only way to reduce Ranger paper work is to move it back to the Supervisor's office where it belongs. Twenty-seven hundred-dollar Rangers should never be required to type long reports. Certainly we didn't stream-line our organization when we moved such work out to the districts instead of copying reports in the supervisor's headquarters. Surely it is fundamentally poor organization to by-pass all CCC paper work through the Ranger to the Camp Superintendent. Why not deal direct on such matters as property accounting, reports, etc. All of us know that improvement construction costs are largely determined by the number of individuals who handle material on its way to the final resting place. Likewise paper work costs. All of us know that specialists pay their way if there is enough of their speciality to keep them busy, and that no man is highly competent in all things. We leave the engineering work to the engineers, the appraisal work to the Timber Management assistants, the recreational planning to the landscape architects; yet somehow on many forests we tolerate the loading of paper work on Rangers when the average forest has two clerks on the Supervisor's staff to every Ranger.

Among others I hold the opinion that a large part of our clerical work is due to sloppiness, mathematical errors, or failure to read instructions, as well as to our admittedly complex procedures.

A month or so ago we sent out a new form 438, Annual Grazing Statistical Report. It was the simplest statistical report that the Forest Service had ever prepared, but, strange as it may seem, nine of the twelve reports contained mathematical errors. Five of them had errors in addition, ten of them had errors in acreages, and, apparently, not one of the ten was checked by anyone in the Supervisor's office. Ten letters had to be written, returning these reports. The job of correcting them and reviewing them a second time will be as large or larger than the original job.

The Chief Clerk in the Division of Management states that erratic and sloppy work in report preparation by the forests consumes the full time of one girl in this Division alone. Inquiry of other Divisions reveals that a proportional amount of time is likewise lost by them from this same cause.

The effectuation of a few simple practices would go a long way toward unloading the paper work we all have to carry:

1. Before writing for information be sure that the question cannot be answered at home.
2. So arrange the routings and handling of reports that the minimum number of people have to handle them.
3. Require the Supervisor's clerical staff to put Rangers' offices in order semi-annually as a part of the audit job.
4. Train Rangers thoroughly in paper jobs that cannot be avoided.
5. Deal direct with camps in all routine paper matters, merely sending the Ranger copies of all correspondence.
6. Relieve Ranger of typing all lengthy reports. Likewise Ranger should forward to Supervisor all requests for information that require lengthy answers.
7. Permit no one but the Supervisor to request any paper work of the Rangers other than emergency work or approved routine.
8. Make it right the first time, make it short and make it snappy.

--- A. C. Shaw  
Regional Office

Circulars O-CCC-Communications of April 1, 1941 and O-CCC-Supervision of September 29 cover in some detail the handling of certain CCC reports, requisitions, etc. without going through the Ranger's office and several forests have eliminated time-consuming and unproductive routine in transacting business between the camps and supervisor's office. Any forests which have not taken this action should do so.

--- J. F. B.

## POT SHOTS FROM THE PISGAH HUNT

Thanks For...The nice weather ... Only twe light rains ... no accidents..The Good Hunting..427 deer and 9 bear..That's hunting, brother..Speak up, Cherokee and Chattahoochee, we didn't hear you..The help rendered by the "visiting firemen" from the R. O...It was good and timely.. The real sportsmanship as exhibited by most of the hunters.. Whether they made a kill or not...Very little "griping"..The camps on North Mills and Davidson rivers..The extra sleep was used.. Many, many thanks, Mr. Shaw.

We won't forget...The hunter's reply when his guide showed him a large bear, and told him to "Shoot, man shoot".."Shoot h--l, look at this d-m gun barrel".."It was swinging to all points of the compass..He never shot..The hunter who said "You guys are dumb, if you think deer run at a certain season, all I have seen have been running like the devil"..."The hunter who sighted three bear, walking majestically in single file, as bears are wont to do...In trying to select the seftest, biggest and most beautiful rug, he forgot to shoot..So, the bears are still with us..The gasps of horror, when Perry Davis would read the "Scoreboard" like this..."15 bucks..10 doe..2 bear.. 1 mule..3 calves..4 hound dogs..2 hunters.. First hunters we have brought in this week".... Then the search for glasses and lights, for verification.. The hunter who carried his radio to the stand with him.. He wondered why everybody laughed.. Thanksgiving supper at "The North Mills River Hotel".."The smell of bear liver, fried in fresh bear fat.. How was it, Mr. Kircher?..The deadly markmanship as exhibited by our cousins from over the mountains..Note to D. Boone and A. Jackson..They can still shoot..The hunter who carried an empty gun for two days, and when he did think to load it, his ammunition wouldn't fit..How easily hunters could get lost in Sunfish Cove.. We should have a fence..The rescue party, led out from Club Gap by the rescuer..Where can a fellow buy a Saint Bernard..With all the trimmings, of course?..Should be standard dquiment, for wardens, rangers, and others..The "Muley buck, taken on North Mills..His accident had been serious, as well as lasting...

-- John H. Stanley  
Pisgah

## SAF ELECTS NATIONAL OFFICERS

New officers for the Society of American Foresters are as follows: President, Harry Schmitz, Chief of the Division of Forestry, University of Minnesota. Mr. Schmitz has been editor-in-chief of the Journal of Forestry since 1937. Vice President, Shirley W. Allen, professor in the University of Michigan School of Forestry and Conservation. Mr. Allen, a well known conservation writer, formerly was in the Service. Council, I. F. Eldredge, Southern Forest Experiment Station; Harry T. Gisbourne, Rocky Mt. Experiment Station; Allen S. Peck, Regional Forester, Region 2; Edward C. Behre, Director Northeastern Experiment Station; H. A. Smith, TVA; F. P. Keen, Portland, Oregon; Frederick S. Baker, U. of California; Ralph C. Hawley, Yale University, William G. Howard, N. Y. Conservation Department.

DEFENSE PARTICIPATION

Following is a summary of reports of purchases of Defense Savings Bonds and Stamps for the month of December 1941.

Percentage of participation:	61
Purchase of bonds	\$20,009.37
Purchase of stamps	2,917.50
<u>Units and Regional Office Divisions participating 100%</u>	

Pensacola Naval Stores, Savannah Naval Stores  
Caribbean pledged 100% with a total of over \$1600 monthly  
Regional Office Divisions: Operation, Executive, CCC  
Fiscal Control, Maintenance

There are 1668 employees in Region 8, of which only 1025 are participating in the purchase of defense bonds and stamps. To the 643 not participating, the following thought is suggested: BUY SOMETHING, as much as you can, and let's make the Region 100%.

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!

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THE ARMY IS ON THE MAP

The Division of Engineering recently issued an interesting map of the General Pickens Division of the Sumter National Forest, South Carolina. The edition, which consisted of 2,000 copies, was printed by the Fourth Corps Army Engineer Office in Atlanta by multilith process in three colors at a cost of \$30.67.

The reproduction of this map within five days after delivery of the material and the low cost for the 2,000 copies of a three color edition, is unusual and considerable credit is due the Army for the prompt, efficient service. The map, which measures  $11\frac{1}{2}$ " x 14" on a scale of 1/2 inch to one mile, is based on an aerial compilation prepared by the Engineering Division. The material furnished the Army Reproduction Plant consisted of one base tracing which was printed in black, showing culture, title, legend, and Class A corners. In addition, two overlays were prepared - one showing drainage reproduced in blue and the other a status sheet showing Forest Acquisition by green tint.

Ordinarily, the Forest Administrative Maps are reproduced by the Geological Survey or at the large Army Reproduction Plant in Washington by lithography. The General Pickens edition is unusually clear for multilith copies and it is hoped that additional maps can be reproduced by the same method.

- - - Albert Smith  
Chief of Drafting - R. O.

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The more money we put into Defense Savings Bonds and Stamps, the more planes, the more tanks, the more ships and, the more chances there will be to save America.

### FALSE ALARM

All was not quiet on the nursery front and the local game warden, intent upon performing his duty, was out to find who was behind the constant "bang-bang" in the longleaf hills where no legal game was likely to be.

Thinking he had located the source of the racket he accosted an enrollee riding a bike and toting a big 12 guage blunder-buss. Considerable "to-do" about license, seasons, etc. took place before the enrollee pulled out several shells (blanks) and the warden slowly walked away. This was not the end, as another "bang" came from over the hill as the warden left the enrollee. Vexed by his recent misapprehension he set out with more determination than ever to get the goods on that other guy. But after careful stalking in the direction of the shot, Lo and Behold! No one was in sight; there was nothing but freshly sown beds of pines for yards around. "Bang" again, and this time right beside him. Only then did the game warden discover the Automatic Exploder which bangs on a pole and shoots at frequent intervals, frightening the birds from the seed bed area.

It goes without saying, no one has seen the game warden near the nursery lately.

- - N. V. Sentell,  
Mississippi

### L I B R A R Y L I N E S

CLIMATE AND MAN: YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURE 1941.

Although the Weather Bureau was transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Commerce shortly after this book was under way, work on it was continued because no series of volumes on science in agriculture could be complete without including weather. The larger part of the book is devoted to the relation of climate and weather to crops. "Climate and grazing" by W. R. Chapline and C. K. Cooperrider, and "Climate and the nation's forests" by Raphael Zon are included in this section.

Other sections contain articles on climate as a world influence; climate and agricultural settlement; flood hazards and flood control; amateur forecasting from cloud formations; and an extensive compilation of climatic data by States.

Four copies of CLIMATE AND MAN are available in the Regional library, for use by Regional office and forest workers.

CLIMATE AND MAN: YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURE 1941. 1248 pages, illus. Price, \$1.75 per copy.

- - Rachel P. Lane  
Librarian - R. O.

"THE GREATEST GOOD FOR THE GREATEST NUMBER?"

On some of the more populous mountain districts in this region, the free use wood problem is becoming acute.

Accessible chestnut, and suitable dead and down material in some areas within personal knowledge is becoming exhausted, and skidding, sledding and back packing of faggots is reaching near the top of the mountains. We have a recognized obligation to the residents within a national forest and especially to the poorest of these. The "government wood" is a very real and important item economically. It is believed that the time is not far distant when these people will come to us with the question "What now?"

Ranger Kirby sometime ago recommended the setting aside of some of the poorer mountain sites for wood procurement by local residents. These sites now have some inferior hardwoods, oaks, maples, etc., of pole size and it was thought that this might be a better ultimate use than the few timber sized trees that it could produce. It was realized, however, that the administrative costs would be extremely high. The reason for this was that close supervision together with the entire marking program would have to be done by Forest officers as no dependence could be placed in local untrained people.

However I submit the theory that we could go much farther than the above suggestion, with mutual benefits to residents and to the Forest Service. I believe we could plan an orderly succession of these areas and also areas of Site I and II wherein we would not only thin as in Kirby's suggestion, but also weed, liberate, and cut for sanitation. In short, I believe we not only could treat some Site III areas as primarily fuel wood producing areas but to also T. S. I. some of our better sites possibly two or three times within their rotation. This could be done with local labor free of costs and with infinitely small risk of improper cutting with the following plan.

1. Start a public relations program (especially in schools) now culminating in time with the organization of conservation clubs or the like in the poorer districts.
2. In this club, train T. S. I. crews of larger boys and train replacements in the "smaller fry".
3. Under supervision, have them mark certain predesignated areas and inspect results.
4. Set up a plan of cutting based on local needs and tree growth, such as our present management plan for the forest.
5. Eventually, if results justify, turn over cutting plan to them under direct supervision of their instructors, or leaders, with only regular functional inspections by forest officers.

That in short is the idea in a nut shell. I believe that we could secure better results this way than we did with CCC labor inasmuch as the workers would have a personal interest in cutting properly, which the CCC enrollee did not have. The following advantages to the Forest Service, local public, and general vicinity should accrue.

1. Prove to local people that we have their interests at heart in a way that intimately touches their economic situation by establishing a real value of the forest to each one individually.

2. Provide a continuous T. S. I. program not dependent on appropriations or on the CCC.
3. Train boys in taking responsibility, and working.
4. Favorably influence local opinion on other Forest Service activities.
5. Eventually spread the idea to farm woodlots privately owned as the "graduates" go out on their own and thus influence "Forest Land Use" in a wider sense.

It is realized, of course, that this fire wood shortage is imminent on only a few districts and there too, in only a few areas. However this shortage will tend to rapidly become more general in nature on these districts. It is felt we should give this some thought and planning now. Further that we might well initiate action locally where the shortage will likely first appear in order to avoid the dangers inherent in such a policy if born of an emergency.

- - H. G. Posey  
Cherokee

(Note from Timber Management: Mr. Posey's article is printed in the hope of getting others to think about free use of fire wood. The old manual, pages 121-123-S has several suggestions for reducing the amount of time spent in supervision, without losing administrative control. Further effort and thinking is needed to serve the local residents and still control the use of forests.

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#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE WORK

University of California, Department of Forestry, has announced two fellowships for graduate work in forestry and range management, and several technical assistantships in forestry for the academic year beginning in August. The fellowships carry annual stipends of \$650 and \$450, payable in ten equal monthly installments, and each technical assistantship provides for the earning of \$50 a month. Applications must be filed by February 20. Blanks may be obtained from the Dean of the Graduate Division, U. of California, Berkeley.

University of Idaho, School of Forestry, offers a fellowship in forestry for the academic year beginning September 1, 1942, carrying a stipend of \$600, payable in ten monthly installments. The recipient will major in forest pathology. Application must be filed by March 1, with the Dean of the School of Forestry, University of Idaho, Moscow. Applicants may secure necessary data by writing direct to the Division of Personnel Management, Regional Office.

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#### SPECIAL HOTEL RATES

The Great Southern Hotel at Hollywood, Florida advises that it will make a "commercial rate" of \$2.50 per person per day for members of the Department travelling on official business.

## 132,776 ACRES APPROVED FOR NATIONAL FORESTS

The National Forest Reservation Commission in December approved the purchase of 112,383 acres of land in 44 National Forests and the acquisition by exchange of 46 parcels of watershed and potential timber lands, involving 25,063 acres in 21 National Forests.

Total cost of the purchases was \$457,498.54 or an average price per acre of \$4.07. The purchases approved included 260 cases under regular appropriations for land acquisition and 101 cases to be purchased with appropriated national forest receipts as authorized by Congressional Act in Arkansas, California and Utah.

The largest purchases given approval were those in the Ocala National Forest in Florida to which 13,281 acres were added, the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina with 12,215 acres, and the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas for which 10,866 additional acres were approved. Included in the larger land exchanges were a 4944-acre transfer, also on the Ocala National Forest, and four cases involving 1,904 acres on the Sam Houston National Forest in Texas.

While the purchases generally helped to round out government ownership, in order to facilitate and improve the management of the forests for timber production and the attendant watershed, wildlife, grazing and recreational values, the approved purchases for this Region included also areas on the Ocala National Forest in Florida, along the stream from the famous Juniper Springs, which flows eight million gallons of water daily; lands in the Holly Springs National Forest, Mississippi, which will aid in protecting the drainage of the Sardis Reservoir, recently constructed by the War Department for flood control purposes, construction of which called for one of the largest earth-filled dams in the United States.

Total land purchases approved for this Region involves 67,473.06 acres in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas.

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### PERSONNEL CHANGES

George Sinclair, Assistant Clerk in the Cherokee Supervisor's office, has been transferred to the Regional Office where he is assigned to the Division of Personnel Management.

Miss M. Virginia Adcock has been probationally appointed as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Cherokee Supervisor's office.

Transfer has been effected for Mrs. Esther L. Nichols from the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., to the Ouachita, where she is assigned as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Supervisor's office.

Elzie P. Rymer has been probationally appointed as Equipment Operator on the French Broad District of the Pisgah.

Probational appointments have been effected for Clifford P. McCleskey and Sidney B. Butler as Under Blueprint Operators in the Regional Division of Engineering.

#### THE LOOKOUT

The Regional Office is well represented in the Atlanta Archery Club - Herbert Knoch is the newly elected President and W. I. Stevens is Vice President. Other club members include Mark Lehrbas, Winton Reinsmith, and Dick Barbour.

According to information we have received, Ranger A. W. Lindenmuth of the Mississippi isn't overlooking forestry in his capacity as President of the Gulf Coast USDA Club for the past six months. In addition to regular luncheon meetings, a formal dance and an informal Christmas party this fall, the Club has had two family outings at the Big Biloxi Recreational Area.

Lieut. James W. Cooper of the Ouachita, when not soldiering, visited the Regional Office enroute from his home in Athens, Ga. to Fort Riley, Kansas.

The Regional Office had the pleasure of a visit from Bill Kramer and Pat Thompson in December. Bill, who really belongs to us, has a host of friends here who are always happy to see him.

Corporal Dennis Ryan and First Sergeant Keagor P. Hearn of Camp Stewart dropped in recently to speak to their many friends in the Regional Office. Both boys were looking well and in fine spirits.

The USDA Club held a Christmas dance on December 13 at the Georgian Terrace Hotel, with many members of the Forest Service personnel attending. Every one had a wonderful time and are eagerly anticipating the next party.

Of unusual interest to the personnel of Region 8 is the announcement made by Assistant Regional Forester and Mrs. L. L. Bishop of the marriage of their daughter Marjorie to Dr. Paul Hill Goodman, which was solemnized on January 1 at St. Mark's Methodist Church, Atlanta, Ga. The young couple are residing in Memphis, Tennessee and to them we extend all good wishes.

Dr. Charles McKinley, Executive Secretary to the Adm. Council in the Department, on leave from Reed College, Messrs. Max Devoe, office of Personnel, Norman L. Munster, Bureau of the Budget, E. M. Rowalt, Office of Land Use Coordination, were in the Regional Office recently making an organizational study.

Small Fry: A New Year note from Ancil Holloway on the Pisgah announces the addition of a second generation Aquatic Biologist on January 2, with the following comments:

"I feel like we started the new year exactly right. Richard Verne arrived last night, 7 p. m., late as usual.

From all indications I have a football star. Of course, he will have to gain 192 pounds before he will be an All-American. June is doing well. Sherry was a little discouraged in its size. The father is doing as well as one could expect."

Receipts in the Forest Reserve fund for Region 8 up to December 31, 1942 for F. Y. 1942 amounted to \$657,464.72.

Recent Office visitors were:

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Ward, Washington Office  
Director McArdle of the Appalachian Station  
Karl R. Mayer of the Florida National Forests  
Director Bevan of the Tropical Experiment Station  
Forest Supervisors: E. W. Hadley, W. C. Branch, P. H. Bryan, Charles Melichar, P. H. Gerrard and R. J. Riebold.

Calling all Region 8 Army men!

Lookout for "Forest Outings" and "New Forest Frontier" in your post library. Just another way to keep forestry before everyone, including the Army. Copies are being sent from the Regional Office today.

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